# HISTORICAL BULLETIN

COPY

MAINTENANCE DEPARTMENT

STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION

Prepared by R. H. Fletcher

HISTORICAL MARKERS

| Name | No. |
|---|---|
| Armstead | 39 |
| Anaconda | 96 |
| Bannack | 36 |
| Basin | 76 |
| Battle of the Bear's Paw (Chinook) | 58 |
| Bear Mouth | 37 |
| Big Hole (South of Divide) | 78 |
| Big Horn | 22 |
| Black Eagle Falls | 4 |
| Bonner | 9 |
| Blackfeet Indians (Browning) | 69 |
| Bozeman (his death) | 16 |
| Bridger | 55 |
| Broadus | 68 |
| Buffalo (North of Chouteau) (Between Forsyth and Hysham) | 5,31 |
| Buffalo Country | 34,35 |
| Butte | 70 |
| Cattle Brands (Hathaway Flats) (Malta) | 32,33 |
| Clark (L. & C.) West of Laurel | 18 |
| Cooke City | 84 |
| Crazy Mountains | 92 |
| Cow Country | 94 |
| Deer Lodge Valley | 46 |
| De Smet, Father (Cardwell) | 87 |
| Ekalaka | 67 |
| Emigrant Gulch | 74 |
| Flathead Indians | 88 |
| Flathead Valley | 89 |
| Fort Assinniboine | 57 |
| Fort Belknap | 59 |
| Fort Benton | 42 |
| Fort C. F. Smith (Lodge Grass) | 41 |
| Fort Connen (Flathead Reservation) | 45 |
| Fort Maginnis (Novary) | 53 |
| Fort Musselshell (Mosby) | 66 |
| Fort Owen | 38 |
| Fort Peck Reservation | 60 |
| Fort Shaw | 72 |
| Fort Union (Bainville) | 48 |
| Freighters (Near Jefferson City) | 29 |
| Gallatin Valley | 14 |
| Gates of the Mountains | 1 |
| Gerryowen | 47 |
| Glendive | 26 |
| Gold Creek | 8 |
| Havre | 64 |
| Hellgate | 10 |

HISTORICAL MARKERS

| Name | No. |
|---|---|
| Jefferson Valley | 86 |
| Jocko Valley | 83 |
| Jordan | 65 |
| Judith Basin | 93 |
| Judith River (Hobson) | 52 |
| Junction (Custer) | 21 |
| Kid Curry (Wagner) | 56 |
| Kootenai River | 90 |
| Last Chance Gulch | 28 |
| Lewis (L. & C.) Birch Creek | 6 |
| Lewis & River (Loma) | 43 |
| Lewisville | 71 |
| Mission Valley (St. Ignatius) | 51 |
| Missouri River Canyon | 2 |
| Missouri River Valley | 12 |
| Mullan Road (Ellison) | 7 |
| Mullan Road (St. Regis) | 11 |
| Nevada City | 82 |
| Pompey's Pillar | 20 |
| Powder River (U. S. 10) | 25 |
| Powder River (U. S. 12) | 77 |
| Prickley Pear Diggings | 50 |
| Raynolds Pass | 49 |
| Red Lodge Country | 54 |
| Rosebud River | 23 |
| Ruby Valley | 81 |
| Sacrifice Cliff (Billings) | 19 |
| Shelby | 62 |
| Shields River | 79 |
| Smith River Valley | 91 |
| Sun River (Great Falls) | 3 |
| Sun River (Augusta) | 80 |
| Sweet Grass Hills | 63 |
| Targhee Pass | 75 |
| Thompson Falls | 44 |
| Three Forks | 13 |
| Tobacco Plains | 95 |
| Tongue River (Miles City) | 24 |
| Trail from Utah (South of Armstead) | 30 |
| Traveller's Rest (Lolo) | 40 |
| Virginia City | 85 |
| Wibaux | 27 |
| Wolf Point | 61 |

No. 0
Location: Near each highway entrance to Montana.

Howdy, stranger! Glad to see you.

You are coming into the heart of the West where you will find a lot of mighty interesting old time trails that turn your fancy loose to range the coulees, gulches, prairie, and mountains and if your imagination isn't hobbled you can people them with picturesque phantoms of the past.

We have marked and explained many of the most interesting historical and scenic spots along the highways. Watch for them and help us to preserve these markers.

Here is wishing you lots of luck and many pleasant miles in Montana.

MONTANA STATE HIGHWAY COMMISSION.

No. 1
Location: Gates of the Mountains

GATES OF THE MOUNTAINS AND THE BEAR TOOTH
4 miles northeast on the Missouri River

Friday, July 19th, 1805.
"this evening we entered much the most remarkable clifts that we have yet seen. these clifts rise from the waters' edge on either side perpendicularly to the hight of (about) 1200 feet. the tow(er)ing and projecting rocks in many places seem ready to tumble on us. the river appears to have forced it's way through this immence body of solid rock for the distance of 5 3/4 Miles and where it makes it's exit below has th(r)own on either side vast collumns of rocks mountains high. It is deep from side to side nor is ther in the 1st 3 Miles of this distance a spot except one of a few yards in extent on which a man could rest the soal of his foot. from the singular appearance of this place I called it the gates of the rocky mounatains."

EXTRACT FROM CAPT. MERIWETHER LEWIS' DIARY, LEWIS AND CLARK EXPEDITION.

No. 2
Location: Opposite Mid-Canyon on Missouri River.

## MISSOURI RIVER CANYON

The Lewis and Clark Expedition, westward bound, camped just across the river on the night of July 17th, 1805. Their equipment was packed in eight canoes. These were rowed, poled, or towed as conditions demanded. Some of the party walked, following an old Indian road through this portion of the canyon. The following morning, as Capt. Lewis recorded in his diary, they "...saw a large herd of *Bighorned anamals on the immencely high and nearly perpendicular clift opposite to us; on the fase of this clift they walked about and bounded from rock to rock with apparent unconcern where it appeared to me that no quadruped could have stood..."

*..Mountain sheep.

No. 3
Location: Just south of Great Falls.

THE SUN RIVER

This river was called "The Medicine" by the Indians. On the return trip from the coast Capt. Lewis, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, struck this river approximately fifty miles west of here. He followed it down to the Missouri passing near this point July 11, 1806. In his journal under that date he said, "when I arrived in sight of the white-bear Islands the missouri Bottoms on both sides of the river were crouded with buffaloe. I sincerely beleif that there were not less than 10 thousand buffaloe within a circle of 2 miles arround that place

The city of Great Falls covers a portion of the plain across which the Expedition made their difficult eighteen mile portage around the falls of the Missouri in June, 1805.

No. 4
Location: Giant Springs Road, Great Falls

BLACK EAGLE FALLS

The uppermost of the Great Falls of the Missouri bears west of this point. The name is a modern one derived from an entry for June 14th, 1805 in the journal of Capt. Meriwether Lewis of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. He discovered the falls on that date and wrote, "...below this fall at a little distance a beatifull little Island well timbered is situated about the middle of the river. in this Island on a Cottonwood tree an Eagle has placed her nest; a more inaccessable spot I beleive she could not have found; for neither man nor beast dare pass those gulphs which separate her little domain from the shores."

After viewing the falls Capt. Lewis ascended the hill to the present location of the smelter stack and saw "...in these plains and more particularly in the valley just below me immence herds of buffaloe.."

No. 5
Location: North of Choteau

In the days of the fur traders and trappers immediately following the time of the Lewis and Clark Expedition (1804-06) all of this country bordering the Rocky Mountains from here north into Canada and south to the three forks of the Missouri and to the Yellowstone River was buffalo range and the hunting grounds of the Blackfoot Nation. These Indians were fierce and willing fighters who jealously guarded their territory from invasion.

Like all of the plains Indians they were dependent upon the buffalo for their existence. The herds meant meat, mocassins, robes, leggins, and teepees. Board and room on the hoof. Some Indian legends say that the first buffalo came out of a hole in the ground. When the seemingly impossible happened and the buffalo were wiped out there were Indians who claimed the whites found the spot, hazed the herds back into it, and plugged the hole.

No. 6
Location: South Boundary Blackfoot Reservation

CAPTAIN MERIWETHER LEWIS

of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, accompanied by three of his men explored this portion of the country upon their return trip from the coast. On July 26, 1806, they met eight Indians and camped with them that night on Two Medicine Creek at a point northeast of here. Next morning the Indians, by attempting to steal the explorers' guns and horses, precipitated a fight in which two of the Indians were killed.

It is popularly supposed that these were Blackfeet Indians. As a matter of fact they were Gros Ventres (Big Bellies). The confusion is due to the careless application of the name "Blackfeet" in the fur days to several different bands of Indians, viz. the Blackfeet proper, the Piegans or Piikuni, the Bloods, and the Gros Ventres (pronounced Grow Vons) of the Prairie.

No. 7.
Location: West foot of McDonald Pass

THE MULLAN ROAD

From this point west to the Idaho line U.S. No. 10 follows the route of a military road located and constructed during 1855-62 by Capt. John Mullan, 2nd Artillery, U.S.A. The road was 624 miles long and connected Fort Benton with Fort Walla Walla. An average wagon outfit required a minimum of forty seven days to travel it.

The Captain, aside from his engineering ability, was a man of considerable acumen as evidenced by the following excerpts from his final report. He prophesied "...the locomotive engine will make passage of the.. wild interior at rates of speed which will startle human credulity."

Also he advises parties chaperoning pack mules to "Never maltreat them but govern them as you would a woman with kindness, affection, and caresses and you will be repaid by their docility and easy management."

Mullan Pass is nine miles north of here.

No. 8
Location: Opposite Gold Creek

## FIRST DISCOVERY OF GOLD IN MONTANA

Opposite this point a creek flows into the Deer Lodge River from the west. In 1852 a French half breed, Francois Finlay, commonly known as "Benetsee", prospected the creek for placer gold. Finlay had had some experience in the California gold fields but was inadequately equipped with tools. However he found colors and in 1858 James and Granville Stuart, Reece Anderson, and Thomas Adams, having heard of Benetsee's discovery, prospected the creek. The showings obtained convinced them that there were rich placer mines in Montana. The creek was first called "Benetsee Creek" and afterwards became known as Gold Creek.

The rumors of the strike reached disappointed "Pikes Peakers" as well as the backwash of prospectors from California and resulted in an era of prospecting that uncovered the famous placer deposits of Montana.

No. 9
Location: U.S. 10 near Bonner

JUNCTION OF THE HELL GATE AND BIG BLACKFOOT RIVERS

An important Indian road came east through the Hell Gate and turned up the Big Blackfoot. It followed that river almost to its source, then crossed the Continental Divide to the plains country. The Indians called the river the Cokalahishkit, meaning "the river of the road to the buffalo."

Capt. Clark and Capt. Lewis, of the Lewis andClark Expedition, divided forces near the present site of Missoula on their return trip from the coast. Capt. Lewis and his party followed this Indian road and passed near here July 4th, 1806.

Capt. John Mullan, U.S.A., locator and builder of the Mullan Military Road from Ft. Benton to Ft. Walla Walla, maintained a construction camp here during the winter of 1861-62 which he named Cantonment Wright. He was the first engineer to bridge the Blackfoot.

No. 10
Location: U.S. No. 10, just south of Missoula

## HELLGATE AND MISSOULA

In the Indian days the mountain tribes had a road through here which led across the Continental Divide to the buffalo. The Blackfeet, from the plains, used to consider it very sporting to slip into this country on horse stealing expeditions and to ambush the Nez Perce and Flathead Indians in this narrow part of the canyon. Funeral arrangements were more or less sketchy in those days even amongst friends so natually enemies got very little consideration. In time the place became so cluttered up with skulls and bones that it was gruesome enough to make an Indian exclaim "I-sul", expressing surprise and horror. The French trappers elaborated and called it "La Porte d'Enfer" or Gate of Hell.

From these expressions were derived the present day names Missoula and Hell Gate. If the latter name depresses you it may be encouraging to know that Paradise is just 79 miles northwest of here.

No. 11
Location: U.S. No. 10, near St. Regis

## MULLAN ROAD

During the years 1855-62 Captain John Mullan, 2nd Artillery, U.S.A., located and built what was known as the Mullan Road. Congress authorized the construction of the road under the supervision of the War Department to connect Ft. Benton, the head of navigation on the Missouri, with Ft. Walla Walla, the head of navigation on the Columbia.

In the winter of 1859-60 Capt. Mullan established a winter camp at this point which he called Cantonment Jordan. The Captain had selected this route in preference to the Clark's Fork route because he thought it would have a climatic advantage since it was farther south. However he later expressed regret for making this choice because investigation showed that the more northerly route was highly favored with chinook winds and the snowfall in consequence was much lighter. The Captain also predicted that both of these routes might eventually be used by trans-continental railroads. His prohpesy was correct.

No. 12
Location: U.S. 10 between Townsend and Winston

THAR'S GOLD IN THEM THAR HILLS

The mountains to the west are the Elkhorns. Those to the east across the Missouri River are the Big Belts. Both of these ranges are highly mineralized. Confederate Gulch of the Big Belts was famous in the '60s for its rich placer diggings. Its Montana Bar, at the old boom camp of Diamond City, now a ghost town, has always been known as "the richest acre of ground in the world." The pay streak ran as highas $2000 to the pan.

Most of the gulches in the Elkhorns were active as placer camps in the early days and this range is dotted with quartz mines still producing lead, zinc, silver and gold. Like most of the mountains in Montana they have been here a long time.

The Lewis and Clark Expedition came up the Missouri River through this valley in July, 1805.

No. 13
Location: East of Three Forks

THE THREE FORKS OF THE MISSOURI

This region was alive with beaver, otter and game before the white man came. It was disputed hunting territory with the Indian tribes. Sacajawea, the Shoshone squaw who guided the Lewis and Clark Expedition, was captured near here when a child during a battle between her people and the Minnetarees. Her memories of this country were invaluable to the explorers. The Expedition, westward bound, encamped near here for a few days in the latter part of July, 1805. The following year Captain Clark and party came back, July 13, 1806, on their way to explore the Yellowstone River.

In 1808 John Colter, discoverer of Yellowstone Park and former member of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, was trapping on a stream in this vicinity when captured by a band of Blackfeet. His only companion was killed. Colter was stripped, given a head start, and ordered to run across the flat which was covered with prickley pear. The Indians were hot on his heels but Colter undoubtedly made an all time record that day for sprints as well as distance events. He outran the Indians over a six mile course and gained the cover of the timber along the Jefferson River. Once in the stream he dove and came up under a jam of driftwood. This hide-out saved him from a lot of disappointed savages. Then night came he headed east, weaponless and out-nuding the nudists. He travelled in this condition for seven days to Fort Lisa, his headquarters, at the mouth of the Big Horn River.

In 1810 the Missouri Fur Co. built a trading post close by but due to the hostility of the Blackfoot Indians were forced to abandon it that fall.

No. 14
Location: One mile east of Bozeman

GALLATIN VALLEY

Captain Wm. Clark, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, with a party of ten men, passed through this valley July 14, 1806, eastward bound, and guided by the Shoshone squaw Sacajawea. They camped that night at the toe of the mountains on the eastern edge of the valley. Captain Clark wrote in his journal:

"I saw Elk, deer & Antelopes, and great deel of old signs of buffalow. their roads is in every direction....emence quantities of beaver on this Fork... and their dams very much impeed the navigation of it."

In the early Sixties John Bozeman, young adventurer, and Jim Bridger, grand old man of the mountains, guided rival wagon trains of emigrants and gold seekers through here over the variously called Bonanza Trail, Bridger Cut-off, or Bozeman Road, from Fort Laramie, Wyo. to Virginia City, Mont. The trail crossed Indian country in direct violation of treaty and was a "cut-off" used by impatient pioneers who considered the time saving worth the danger.

Traffic was not congested.

No. 15
Location: On divide between Livingston and Bozeman

BOZEMAN PASS

Sacajawea, the little Shoshone squaw who guided the Lewis and Clark Expedition, led Capt. Wm. Clark and his party of ten men over an old buffalo road through this pass on July 15, 1806. They were eastward bound and planned to explore the Yellowstone River to its mouth where they were to rejoin Capt. Lewis and party who were returning via the Missouri River.

In the Sixties John M. Bozeman, andadventurous young Georgian, opened a trail from Ft. Laramie, Wyo. to Virginia City, Mont. across the hostile Indian country east of here. He brought his first party through in 1863 and the next year guided a large wagon train of emigrants and gold seekers over this pass, racing with an outfit in charge of Jim Bridger. Bridger used a pass north of here. These pioneer speed demons made as much as fifteen to twenty miles a day--some days. The outfits reached Virginia City within a few hours of each other.

No. 16
Location: East of Livingston where Bozeman was killed

JOHN M. BOZEMAN

John M. Bozeman, the Georgian who pioneered the "cut-off" trail from Fort Laramie, Wyo. to the gold diggings at Virginia City, Mont. in the early Sixties, was killed up this draw by Blackfoot Indians in April, 1867. He and Tom Coover were on their way to Fort C.F.Smith on the Big Horn River. They had camped on the Yellowstone and Indians stole some of their horses that night. The next day, while Bozeman and Coover were eating, five bucks came into camp with these stolen horses and professed to be friendly Crows. Not until too late were they recognized as Blackfeet by the white men. Without warning they shot and killed Bozeman. Coover was wounded but escaped. Bozeman is buried in the town west of here that bears his name.

No. 17
Location: West of Boulder River

THE BONANZA OR BOZEMAN TRAIL

In the '60s there wasn't a ranch in this country from Bismarck to Bozeman and from the Platte River to Canada. It was land considered fit only to raise Indians and while some of the whites were hoping for a crop failure the majority were indifferent. They didn't care how much the tribes fought amongst themselves. They were like the old timer whose wife was battling the grizzley bear. He said he never had seen a fight where he took so little interest in the outcome.

Then the white man's greed asserted itself and he looked for a short cut freom the Oregon Trail at Laramie, Wyo. to the gold diggings of western Montana. The Bonanza or Bozeman Trail across Indian hunting grounds was the result. It forced the Yellowstone near here, coming in from the southeast. It was a trail soaked with the blood of warriors, soldiers and emigrants. The Sioux, under Chief Red Cloud, fought the trail for six years and forced its closure by the Government in 1868.

No. 18
Location: West of Laurel

CAPTAIN WM. CLARK

Captain Wm. Clark, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, camped on the Yellowstone near here July 19, 1806 and stayed until the 24th. They had been looking for timber suitable to build canoes over since striking the river near Livingston. They found a couple of large cottonwoods here that would serve. They fitted their axes with handles made from choke cherry and went to work making two canoes. When finished they lashed them together with a deck of buffalo hides between. Seven men, Sacajawea, and her papoose went curving down the river on this makeshift yacht, arriving at the mouth of the Yellowstone Aug. 3rd. Captain Lewis explored the Maria's River and returned via the Missouri, joining them Aug. 12th.

No. 19
Location: Sacrifice Cliff at Billings

## SACRIFICE CLIFF

About a hundred years ago a smallpox epidemic raged amongst the Indian tribes of the Northwest. The Indian custom of taking sweat baths to cure disease increased the fatalities. Sacrifice Cliff is so called because legend has it that many Indians, either in desperation or to appease the wrath of their gods, leaped from its crest to death in the river below.

Captain Wm. Clark, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and his party passed here July 24, 1806, floating down the Yellowstone. He wrote in his journal, "for me to mention or give an estimate of the different Species of wild animals on this river particularly Buffalow, Elk, Antilope and Wolves would be increditable I shall therefore be silent on the subject farther."

But he wasn't.

No. 20
Location: Pompey's Pillar

POMPEY'S PILLAR

Captain Wm. Clark, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, stopped here July 25, 1806 on his way down the Yellowstone. He wrote in his journal that the rock, which he named Pompey's Tower, was

"200 feet high and 400 paces in secumpherance and only excessable on one side...The native have ingraved on the face of this rock the figures of animals etc. near which I marked my name and the day of the month and year."

The signature is still there. Only fools destroy but it had to be protected from vandals by a steel screen erected by the Northern Pacific Railway Co.

The party camped a few miles down the Yellowstone that night and the buffalo made so much noise that they had difficulty sleeping.

No. 21
Location: Near Custer

## JUNCTION

The frontier town of Junction was just across the Yellowstone River. It was a stage station for outfits heading for old Fort Custer which used to be twenty-five or thirty miles south of here on the Crow Reservation. The original Reservation took in everything in Montana west of the Tongue River and south of the Yellowstone.

There isn't anything left of Junction except a few unkept graves along the hillside but she was lurid in her day. Calamity Jane sojourned there a while and helped whoop things up. Calamity was born in Missouri, raised in Virginia City, Mont., and wound up at Deadwood, South Dakota. She had quite a dazzling social career.

Several years ago they found a skeleton of a three horned dinosaur in the formation which makes the bluffs on the north side of the river. It must have bogged down some time before Junction did,--probably a couple of million years.

No. 22
Location: Near Big Horn

JUNCTION OF THE BIG HORN AND YELLOWSTONE RIVERS

Captain Wm. Clark, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, and his party camped here July 26, 1806. He reported the Big Horn swarming with beaver.

The following year Manuel Lisa, a Spaniard from St. Louis, brought an outfit in by keel boat and built a fur trading post here, known as Fort Lisa or Fort Manuel. It was the first building erected in Montana. John Colter, discoverer of Yellowstone Park, was a member of the party.

On June 24th, 1876, General Terry and General Gibbon started up the Big Horn and Tullock Creek from here to cooperate with Custer in contacting the hostile Sioux and Cheyenne Indians led by Chiefs Gall, Crazy Horse, Two Moons, and the Medicine Man Sitting Bull. Custer did not wait for this support and the disastrous Battle of the Little Big Horn was fought June 25th. Gibbon's column arrived at the battlefield the morning of the 27th.

No. 23
Location: Rosebud River Crossing

THE ROSEBUD RIVER

This stream was noted by Captain Wm. Clark, July 28th, 1806, when he was descending the Yellowstone River.

In June, 1876, the columns of General Gibbon and General Custer, both under command of General Terry, met here, the former coming from the west and the latter from the east. They were under orders to campaign against the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians.

The Generals held a conference aboard the supply steamer "Far West" and it was decided that Custer take his column up the Rosebud on a fresh Indian trail which had been found by a scouting party under Major Reno. He started June 22nd.

Terry and Gibbon were to proceed to the mouth of the Big Horn and follow that stream up to the valley of the Little Big Horn where they believed the hostiles would be found. Custer was expected to contact Gibbon June 26th and the two columns would cooperate in an attack.

Custer reached and attacked the Indian camp June 25th and his entire command was all but wiped out.

No. 24
Location: Between Fort Keogh and Miles City.

THE TONGUE RIVER

Captain Wm. Clark, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, camped with his party on an island in the Yellowstone, opposite the mouth of the Tongue, July 29th, 1806. The Indian name for the river is "Lazeka."

Construction of Fort Keogh, named for one of Custer's captains killed at the Battle of the Little Big Horn in '76, was started in '77. That knob off to the south is Signal Butte. During the Indian troubles the Army used to flash sun mirror messages to a post on the Black Hills 175 miles away. A cloudy day sure threw a lot of static into that pioneer wireless system.

Miles City, named after General Nelson A. Miles, started in '77 as a shack and tent town with a population running largely to prospectors and miners from the Black Hills, buffalo hunters, traders and gamblers. She was wild for a while. Then the cattle days of the '80s arrived many a Texas trail herd came through here and the city soon acquired a national reputation as a cattle and horse market which it has never relinquished.

No. 25
Location: Powder River Crossing

POWDER RIVER

This is the river that exuberant parties claim is a mile wide, an inch deep, end runs up hill. The statement is exaggerated.

Captain Clark, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, named it the Redstone in 1806 and afterwards found out that the Indians called it the same thing but they pronounced it "Ta-ha-sah". He camped just across the Yellowstone from the mouth of the Powder on the night of July 30th, 1806.

Generals Terry and Custer, moving from the east to take part in a campaign against the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians, camped on the Yellowstone about 25 miles west of here June 10, 1876. From that point Major Reno was sent with six troops of the 7th Cavalry to scout the Powder and Tongue River valleys for Indian sign. He swung further west and picked up a fresh trail on the Rosebud. It was this trail that led Custer into contact with the hostiles resulting in the Battle of the Little Big Horn.

No. 26
Location: Just west of Glendive

## GLENDIVE

A yachting party consisting of Capt. Wm. Clark, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, six of his men, Sacajawea and her papoose, floated by here Aug. 1st, 1806 navigating a craft made by lashing together two hollowed out cottonwood logs. It was Clark's birthday and the outfit had to land that afternoon to let a herd of bufalo swim the river ahead of them.

Sir George Gore, a sporting Irish nobleman, arrived on the scene in 1855, with Jim Bridger as a guide, to hunt buffalo. He named the valley "Glendive."

The town of Glendive came into existence as "Queen City of the Cow Land" during the cattle boom of the '80s. In '84, 12,800 "pilgrims' or eastern cattle were unloaded there in one week to help stock the range. They may have been "barnyard stock" but their progeny grew up rough, tough, and hard to curry.

No. 27
Location: Just east of Wibaux

In 1876 this was strictly buffalo and Indian country. There wasn't a ranch between Bismarck, North Dakota and Bozeman, Montana. But the U.S. Cavalry rounded up the hostile Indians from '76 to '81 and forced them onto reservations while the buffalo hunters were busy clearing the range for the cattle boom of the Eighties.

Pierre Wibaux ran one of the biggest cattle spreads around here in the early days. His will provided a fund to erect a statue of himself "overlooking the land I love so well." It stands a mile west of the town of Wibaux.

From this endof Montana to the west end is just about the same distance as from New York to Chicago. You have to push a lot of ground behind you to get places in this State.

No. 28
Location: Just north of Helena

## LAST CHANCE GULCH

The city of Helena started as a group of placer miners' cabins and this highway leads you to and from Main Street which follows the bottom of Last Chance Gulch. The Gulch is formed by the convergence of Oro Fino and Grizzley Gulches and its colorful history began when gold was discovered July 14, 1864, at the present site of the Montana Club Building, by a party returning to Ft. Benton from an unsuccessful prospecting trip. They agreed to camp and give this locality a try as their "last chance." It proved to be a bonanza.

It is estimated that the Gulch produced thirty millions in pay dirt and there is plenty left beneath the present business district. After a cloud burst colors and nuggets have been found in the gutters.

Main Street is very irregular in width and alignment. Some opine that it was laid out in this manner to restrict the shooting range of impetuous, hot-blooded gents in the roaring days gone by.

No. 29
Location: Between Alhambra and Jefferson City

Time was when ox and mule teams used to freight along this route. A five ton truck doesn't look as picturesque but there hasn't been much change in the language of the drivers.

Jerk line skinners were plumb fluent when addressing their teams. They got right earnest and personal. It was spontaneous--no effort about it. When they got strung out they were worth going a long ways to hear. As a matter of fact you didn't have to go a long ways, providing your hearing was normal. Adjectives came natural to them but they did bog down some on names. They had the same one for each of their string.

Those times are gone forever. The day of the ox has given way to the era of bull.

No. 30
Location: Between Red Rock and Dell

Along in the early '40s the Americans were like they are now---seething to go somewhere. It got around that Oregon was quite a place. The Iowa people hadn't located California yet. A wagon train pulled out across the plains and made it to Oregon. Then everyone broke out into a rash to be going west.

They packed their prairie schooners with their household goods, gods, and garden tools. Outside of Injuns, prairie fires, cholera, famine, cyclones, cloud bursts, quick sand, snow slides, and blizzards they had a tolerably blithe and gay trip.

Then gold was found in Montana some of them forked off from the main highway and surged along this trail aiming to reach the rainbow's end. It was mostly one way traffic but if they did meet a backtracking outfit there was plenty of room to turn out.

No. 31
Location: Between Forsyth and Hysham

This was buffalo and Indian country through here up until the '80s. Injuns aren't curving around the scenery as promiscuously as they used to and buffalo are a curiosity.

The plains Indians were in the stock business on a large scale. The buffalo were their cattle and being all mavericks it led to argument over ownership and range. Instead of getting together and forming a live stock association like their pale faced brothers learned to do, they took a lot of pleasure in letting their grievances fester and break out in violence. It shoved up the mortality rate considerably but it furnished them a lot of pastime. The Indians who aren't playing football or who aren't in politics and the movies are now on reservations. The few buffalo that are left are corraled too.

Civilization is a wonderful thing, according to some people.

No. 32 and 33
Location: Hathaway Flats west of Miles City and near Malta

CATTLE BRANDS

Many a dogie* (not "doggie"--dudes please note) has been decorated with one of these famous Montana irons.

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Running C A | Quarter Circle U | N bar |
| Seventy nine | Circle C | Inverted T X |
| D H S | Monogram S H | Three V's |
| Three circle | Bar R | Pitch fork |
| Square and compass | Flying D | Seven bar seven |
| Two pole pumpkin | Long X | Circle diamond |
| N bar N | Railroad track | Maltese cross |
| Turkey track | Lazy H hanging two | Hash knife |
| Monogram F U F | Rocking Chair | Hour glass |
| Hat X | Bull head | Fish hook |
| Seven V N | Reversed E two bar | Two A bar |
| Shaving Mug | Three sevens | Rafter Circle |
| Forty | Two dot | Piece of pie |
| L U Bar | Lazy P swinging 9 | Mill iron |
| Umbrella | Antler | W bar |
| Spearhead | Monogram P L E | Circle |
| Bug | Horsheshoe bar | U lazy J |
| C K | L O | X I T |
| L X | O M | S L |
| J O | 7 0 7 | 7 M |

*..A dogie is a little calf who has lost its mammy and whose daddy has run off with another cow.

No. 35 and 34
Location: Just west of Glasgow and ten miles west of Hardin

## BUFFALO COUNTRY

Buffalo meant life to the plains Indians and the mountain Indians used to slip down from the hills for their share too. Some tribes would toll buffalo into a concealed corral and then down them; another system was to stampede a herd over a cliff; but the sporting way was to use bows and arrows and ride them down on a trained buffalo horse.

Fat cow was the choice meat. The Indians preserved their meat long before the whites ever had any embalmed beef scandals. They made pemmican by drying and pulverizing the meat, pouring marrow bone grease and oil over it, and packing it away in skin bags. It kept indefinitely and in food value one pound was worth ten of fresh meat.

Tanned robes and raw-hide were used for bedding, tipis, clothes, war shields, stretchers, travois, canoes, and bags. Horns and bones made tools and utensils. The buffalo played a prominent part in many of their religious rites and jealousy of hereditary hunting grounds brought on most of the intertribal wars.

No. 36
Location: At or just south of Dillon

BANNACK

The Lewis and Clark Expedition, westward bound, passed here in August, 1805.

The old mining camp of Bannack is on Grasshopper Creek about twenty miles west of here. The first paying placer discovery in Montana was made in that vicinity by John White, July 28, 1862 and Bannack became the first capital of Montana Territory. They should have built it on wheels. The following Spring six prospectors discovered Alder Gulch and practically the entire population of Bannack stampeded to the new dig ings where the new camp of Virginia City eventually became the capital until it was changed to Helena.

Henry Plummer, sheriff and secret chief of the road agents, was hanged at Bannack in '64 by the Vigilantes. It tamed him down considerably.

No. 37
Location: Opposite Bear Mouth

## BEAR MOUTH

Bear Mouth, across the river to the south, was a trading point for the placer camps of Beartown, Garnet and Coloma located in the hills north of here. A pioneer family named Lannen operated the gold exchange and a ferryboat.

The river, officially known as Clark Fork of the Columbia and so named for Capt. Wm. Clark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, has many local names. Its source is Silver Bow Creek, then it becomes the Deer Lodge River, changes to the Hellgate River, is then called the Missoula and winds up as the Clark Fork.

It had one other name given to it by a white man. In September, 1841, the intrepid Jesuit priest, Pierre Jean De Smet, travelled westward through here on his way from St. Louis to establish a mission for the Flathead Indians in the Bitter Root Valley. He crossed the river at the present site of Garrison and named it the St. Ignatius.

No. 38
Location: Fort Owen, Stevensville

FORT OWEN

Between 1831 and 1840 the Flathead Indians sent out three delegations, with St. Louis as their objective, to petition that "Black Robes" be sent to teach them. As a result Father De Smet, a Catholic missionary established the original St. Mary's Mission here in 1841. He and his assistants hewed logs and built a dwelling, carpenter and blacksmith shops, and a chapel. They drove in the first oxen with wagons, carts, and plows that year and in 1842 brought cows from Colville, Wash. and raised a crop of wheat and garden produce, probably the first in Montana.

In 1843, assisted by Father Ravalli and others, he built the first grist mill. The stones were brought from Antwerp, Belgium, via the Columbia River.

The Mission was sold to Major John Owen in 1850. On its site he built a trading post and fort, the north wall of which stands. The Major was a genial and convivial host when travellers came that way and for many years Fort Owen was an important trading point for whites as well as Indians.

No. 39
Location: Forks of Red Rock Creek and Horse Prairie Creek

I August, 1805, Capt. Lewis, of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, while scouting to the west of here, found a camp of the Shoshone Indians. He had hoped to meet them ever since leaving the Three Forks of the Missouri.

He persuaded their chief and some of the tribe to return to this point with him to meet Capt. Clark, who, with the main body of the Expedition, was coming up the creek with canoes. Clark arrived August 17, 1805

The little squaw, Sacajawea, guide for the Expedition, had been captured when a child by an enemy tribe at Three Forks. She recognized the Shoshone chief, Cam-e-ah-wah as her brother. This furthered the friendly relations started by Lewis and he and Clark were able to secure horses for their outfit from the Indians. They cached their canoes and part of their supplies near here and pulled out towards the West August 24th to cross the Continental Divide.

No. 40
Location: Mouth of Lo Lo Creek, Bitter Root Valley.

## TRAVELLER'S REST

The Lewis and Clark Expedition, westward bound, camped at the mouth of Lo Lo Creek Sept. 9th, 10th, 1805. They had been travelling down the Bitter Root Valley and halted here to secure a supply of venison before crossing the mountains to the west via the Lo Lo Pass. They named the spot Traveller's Rest, and it was at this camp that they first learned of the Indian road up Hell Gate leading to the buffalo country east of the main range of the Rockies.

Returning from the coast they again camped here from June 30th, 1806 to July 3rd. When the party divided, Lewis took the Indian "road to the Buffalo" and after exploring the Marias River descended the Missouri while Clark went via the Big Hole, Beaver Head, Jefferson and Gallatin Valleys and the Yellowstone River.

They reached their rendezvous near the mouth of the Yellowstone within 9 days of each other.

Considering distance and unexplored terrain, they were tolerably punctual.

No. 41
Location: At Lodge Grass

FORT C. F. SMITH

The ruins of this military post are about 25 miles west of here. InAug., 1866 two companies of soldiers guided by Jim Bridger established the fort on a plain overlooking the Big Horn River and between Spring Gulch and Warrior Creek. It was built of logs and adobe, the third, last and most northerly of three posts built to protect emigrants and freighters on the Bozeman or Bonanza Trail from the hostile Sioux and Cheyennes.

The "Hayfield Fight" occured Aug. 1st, 1867, three miles east of the fort when a handful of civilians and soldiers in a brush corral stood off an attacking band of hostiles estimated as close to 2,000 braves.

The Sioux under Chief Red Cloud forced the closing of the trail by the Government in 1868 and the fort was then abandoned.

No. 42
Location: South of Ft. Benton

FORT BENTON

Capt. Clark with members of the Lewis and Clark Expedition camped on the site of Ft. Benton June 4, 1805.

Originally a trading post of the American Fur Co. it became head of navigation on the Missouri with the arrival of the first steamboat from St. Louis in 1859. She boomed in the early '60s as a point of entry to the newly discovered placer mines of western Montana. Supplies were freighted out by means of ox teams and profanity.

An early observer states, "Perhaps nowhere else were ever seen motlier crowds of daubed and feathered Indians, buckskin-arrayed half-breed nobility, moccasined trappers, voyageurs, gold seekers and bull drivers...on the opening of the boating season."

No. 43
Location: So uth of Maria's River Crossing at Loma.

MARIA'S RIVER

The Lewis and Clark Expedition camped at the mouth of this river just east of here June 3, 1805. The Indians called it "The River that Scolds at all Others" but Lewis renamed it in honor of his cousin, Miss Maria Wood. Until exploration proved otherwise most members of the party believed this river to be the main channel of the Missouri.

On his return trip from the coast in 1806 Capt. Lewis explored the Maria's almost to its source.

In the fall of 1831 James Kipp of the American Fur Co. built Ft. Piegan at the mouth of the river, as a trading post for the Blackfoot Indians and acquired 2400 beaver "plews" or skins by trade during the first 10 days. In 1832 the post was abandoned and the Indians burned it.

No. 44
Location: Near Thompson Falls

THOMPSON FALLS

Named for David Thompson, geographer and explorer for the North West Co., a British fur trading outfit.

In Nov. 1809 he built a trading post nearly opposite the mouth of Prospect Creek, named it Selish House, and wintered there.

The Flathead Indians called themselves "Selish", meaning "The People." Like most nations they probably figured they were a little finer haired than the foreigners.

Thompson was the greatest geographer of his day in British America.

The Clark Fork of the Columbia was named for Capt. Wm. Clark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition.

No. 45
Location: Flathead Indian Reservation

FORT CONNEN

Fort Connen, the last of the Hudson Bay Co. trading posts established within the present borders of the United States, was built about 1/4 mile east of here, by Angus McDonald in 1847. It remained an important trading center for the Indians until 1872. The old store house is still standing.

Mission Valley was thrown open for settlement in 1910. Prior to that time it was almost entirely virgin prairie, unplowed, unfenced and beautiful to see. You rode a saddle horse to get places. Some people wish it was still like that.

No. 46
Location: Near Deer Lodge

DEER LODGE VALLEY

At the mouth of Rattlesnake Creek, south of Dillon, a phonetic speller erected a road sign in 18621 One side read

Tu grass Hop Per digins
30 myle
Kepe the Trale nex the bluffe

The directions on the other side were a trifle sketchy. They read

Tu jonni Grants
one Hundred & twenti myle.

The placer diggings were at Bannack and the city of Deer Lodge is built on a part of Johnny Grant's ranch. The miners considered Johnny a tolerably close neighbor.

This valley has been a great stock country since the '50s when said Johnny Grant and friends used to pick up worn-down, foot-sore cattle along the Oregon Trail and haze them up to Montana to rest and fatten.

The mountains to the east are the Continental Divide. Those to the west are the Flint Creek Range.

No. 47
Location: Gerryowen

GERRYOWEN

Gerryowen, the old Irish tune, was the regimental marching song of the 7th U. S. Cavalry, General Custer's command.

The Battle of the Little Big Horn commenced in the valley just east of here June 25, 1876, after Custer had ordered Major Marcus A. Reno to move his battalion into action against the hostile Sioux and Cheyennes, led by Chiefs Gall, Crazy Horse, Two Moons and the Medicine Man, Sitting Bull.

Reno, with 112 men, came out of the hills about 2½ miles southeast of here and rode within 1/4 mile of the Indian camp where he was met by the hostiles who outnumbered the soldiers ten to one. Dismounting his men, Reno formed a thin skirmish line west across the valley from the timber along the river. After severe losses he was forced to retreat to high ground east of the Little Big Horn where he was joined by Major Benteen's command. The combined force stood off the Indians until the approach of Gibbon's column from the north on the following day caused the hostiles to pull out. Reno and Benteen were not aware of Custer's fate until the morning of the 27th.

No. 48
Location: Just east of Bainville.

FORT UNION

Fort Union, one of the largest and best known trading posts of the fur days, was located on the Missouri near the mouth of the Yellowstone, about 14 miles southeast of here. Built by the AmericanFur Co. in 1828 for trade with the Assiniboine Indians, its importance increased with the arrival of the first steamboat from St. Louis, the "Yellowstone , about June 17, 1832.

The Blackfeet, influeneed by British fur companies, had refused to trade with Americans until Kenneth McKenzie, in charge of Ft. Union, succeeded in having a band of this nation brought to the fort in 1831.

No. 49
Location: South of Hutchins

RAYNOLD'S PASS

The low gap in the mountains on the sky line south of here is Raynold's Pass over the Continental Divide.

Jim Bridger, famous trapper and scout, guided an expedition of scientists through the pass in June of 1860. The party was led by Capt. W. F. Raynolds of the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army. They came through from the south and camped that night on the Madison River near this point. Capt. Raynolds wrote "The pass is...so level that it is difficult to locate the exact point at which the waters divide. I named it Low Pass and deem it to be one of the most remarkable and important features of the topography of the Rocky Mountains."

Jim Bridger didn't savvy road maps or air route beacons but he sure knew his way around.

No. 50
Location: Montana City

THE PRICKLEY PEAR DIGGINGS

The Fisk or Northern Overland Expedition camped on the future site of Montana City just east of the highway in Sept., 1862. The outfit consisting of 125 emigrants, had left St. Paul June 16, 1862 under the leadership of Capt. James L. Fisk for the purpose of opening a wagon route to connect at Ft. Benton with the eastern terminal of the Mullan Road from Walla Walla.

They found "Gold Tom", one of Montana's first prospectors, holed up in a tepee near here scratching gravel along Prickley Pear Creek in a search for the rainbow's end. The few colors he was panning out wouldn't have made much of a dent in the National debt but about half of the Fisk outfit got the gold fever and decided to winter here.

Montana City swaggered into existence in Sept. 1864 but it is only a memory now.

No. 51
Location: Near St. Ignatius

## THE MISSION VALLEY

The Mission Valley, called by the Indians "Sinielemen", meaning "Meeting Place" or "rendevouz", was occupied by the Pend d'Oreille (Ear ring) tribe when the white men came. By treaty with the Government in 1855 it became a part of the Reservation for the Confederated Tribes of Flatheads, Pend d'Oreilles, and Kootenais.

St. Igaatius Mission, the second built in Montana, was established in 1854 by the Jesuits. The first church was built of whip sawed lumber and was held together with wooden pins. Through the untiring efforts of the priests the Mission prospered. A school was opened in 1864 by four Sisters of Providence from Montreal. The Ursalines arrived in 1884 and opened a hospital.

In 1910 the unallotted land on the Reservation was thrown open to settlement. The whites and barbed wire moved in.

No. 52
Location: Between Hobson and Moccasin

THE JUDITH RIVER

When the Lewis and Clark Expedition came up the Missouri River in 1805 Capt. Clark named the Judith River for one of the girls he left behind him.

Southwest of here is the Pig-eye Basin and beyond that, in the Little Belt Mountains, is Yogo Gulch. Yogo sapphires are mined there. They are the deepest colored sapphires found in the world and the only ones mined from a lode. When combined with Montana nuggets they make a mighty pretty and unique combination for rings, cuff links, pins and similar fancy doo-dads. Oriental, as well as all other Montana sapphires are found in placer ground.

The Judith Basin country was the early day stomping ground of Charley M. Russell, famous and beloved Montana cowboy artist. Charley is now camped somewhere across the Great Divide where the grass is good and there aren't any fences.

No. 53
Location: West of Novary

FORT MAGINNIS

Old Fort Maginnis, a military post built in 1880, was about eight miles north of here. This country was great buffalo range before that time but cattlemen were bringing in stock from the western valleys and Texas longhorns were being trailed in from the southeast. There wasn't room for both cattle and buffalo so the latter had to go. This put a crimp in the Indians' eating arrangements. The soldiers were supposed to ride herd on the roving, redskin brothers to keep them from mistaking cattle for buffalo.

There were also quite a number of pale-face parties who were handy with a running iron and prone to make errors as to brands and ownership. Such careless souls were known as "rustlers." Sometimes the cattlemen called on these pariahs with a posse and intimated that they were unpopular. Usually such a visitation cured a rustler or two permanently.

No. 54
Location: Just north of Red Lodge

THE RED LODGE COUNTRY

According to traditiona a band of Crow Indians left the main tribe and moved west into the foothills of the Beartooth Range many years ago. They smeared their council teepee with red clay and this primitive artistry resulted in the name Red Lodge.

This region is a bonanza for scientists. It is highly fossilized and Nature has opened a book on Beartooth Butte covering about a quarter of a billion years of geological history. It makes pretty snappy reading for parties interested in some of the ologies--palaeontology for example. Dinosaur eggs have been found that grade just as high in omelet value as the Gobi Desert products.

Some students opine that prehistoric men existed here several million years before heretofore believed. Personally we don't know, but if there were people prowling around that long ago of course they would pick Montana as the best place to live.

No. 55
Location: Near town of Bridger

JIM BRIDGER, MOUNTAIN MAN

Jim Bridger, arrived in Montana in 1822 as a member of a Rocky Mountain Fur Co. brigade. For years he had no more permanent home than a poker chip. He roamed the entire Rocky Mountain region and often came through this part of the country. A keen observer, a natural geographer and with years of experience amongst the Indians, he became invaluable as a guide and scout for wagon trains and Federal troops following the opening of the Oregon Trail.

He shares honors with John Colter for first discoveries in the Yellowstone Park country. He was prone to elaborate a trifle for the benefit of pilgrims and it was Jim who embroidered his story of the petrified forest by asserting that he had seen "a peetrified bird sitting in a peetrified tree singing a peetrified song."

The Clark Fork of the Yellowstone was named for Capt. Wm. Clark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition. Chief Joseph led his band of Nez Perce Indians down this river when he made his famous retreat in the summer of 1877.

No. 56
Location: Between Wagner and Malta.

EARLY DAY OUTLAWS

Take it by and large, the old West produced some tolerably lurid gun toters.

Their hole card was a single-action frontier model 45 Colts and their long suit was fanning it a split second quicker than similarly inclined gents. This talent sometimes postponed their obsequies quite a while, providing they weren't pushed into taking up rope spinning from the loop end of a lariat by a wearied public. Through choice or force of circumstances these parties sometimes threw in with the "wild bunch";--rough riding, fast shooting hombres prone to disregard the customary respect accorded other peoples brands.

Kid Curry's stomping ground in the 80s was the Little Rockies country about forty miles southwest of here. July 3rd, 1901, he pulled off a premature Independence Day celebration by holding up the Great Northern No. 3 passenger train and blowing the express car safe near this point. His departure was plumb hasty. The Great Northern would still probably like to know where he is holed up.

No. 57
Location: West of Fort Assinniboine

FORT ASSINNIBOINE

The site of Fort Assinniboine is just east of here. This old military post was established May 9, 1879 and built by the 18th U.S.Infantry under the command of Col. Ruger. The troops were to protect settlers from possible Indian raids following Custer's defeat by the Sioux and Cheyenne tribes and the pursuit of the Nez Perce tribe under Chief Joseph. Fort Assinniboine was a base from which the soldiers could sally forth as a reception committee. No serious Indian disturbances occurred, however.

This post was regarded as one of the most strategic points in the Northwest. The Reserve took in the entire Bear Paw Range of mountains.

General Pershing served here as a Lieutenant under General Miles just prior to the Spanish American War.

The post was abandoned by the War Department in 1911.

No. 58
Location: At Chinook

THE BATTLE OF THE BEARPAW

This battle was fought in Oct., 1877 on Snake Creek about 20 miles south of here near the Bear Paw Mts. where after a 3 day's siege Chief Joseph, leader of the Nez Perce Indians, surrendered to Col. Nelason A. Miles of the U. S. Army.

The usual forked tongue methods of the whites which had deprived these Indians of their hereditary lands caused Joseph to lead his people on a tortuous 2,000 mile march from their home in Idaho to evade U. S. troops and gain sanctuary in Canada.

This greatest of Indian generals fought against fearful odds. He and his warriors could have escaped by abandoning their women, children and wounded. They refused to do this.

His courage and fairness were admired by Col. Miles who promised him safe return to Idaho. One of the blackest records in our dealings with the Indians was the Government's repudiation of this promise and the subsequent treatment accorded Joseph and his followers.

No. 59
Location: On Fort Belknap Reservation

FORT BELKNAP RESERVATION

Established in 1867 for the Assiniboine and Gros Ventre Indians it took its name from an old Northwest Fur Co. trading post located near the present site of Chinook.

Tradition credits the tribe as originally belonging to the Sioux Nation. Two of the first ladies of the tribe, wives of chiefs, quarreled over an epicurean delicacy, viz a buffalo heart. The chiefs chipped in and the tribe split. One faction headed west and became known as the Assiniboines, meaning "Mountain Sioux".

Gros Ventre (pronounced "Grow Von") is early French for "Big Belly". This tribe of Indians produced fierce and relentless warriors who roamed the plains country far and wide during the fur trapping days. They warred with the Crow tribe and were allies of the Blackfoot Nation.

No. 60
Location: At or near Poplar

FORT PECK INDIAN RESERVATION

In the early days when the whites didn't figure that northern Montana amounted to much, they displayed considerable liberality by telling the Indians that they could have it. Of course having lived around here quite a while and never having heard of Napoleon or the Louisiana Purchase these naive Indians allowed it belonged to them anyhow.

So everything north of the Sun and Missouri Rivers between the Rocky Mountains and North Dakota was known as the Blackfoot Reserve. But as usual more treaties followed and with each new treaty Indian acreage diminished. The Fort Peck Reservation is one of the remnants.

The Indians on this Reservation are Assiniboins and Yankton Sioux.

No. 61
Location: At or near Wolf Point

## WOLF POINT

The Lewis and Clark Expedition passed here, westward bound in 1805. Fur trappers and traders followed a few years later. Steamboats began making it from St. Louis up the Missouri as far as Fort Benton in the early '60s and this was considered the half-way point between Bismarck and Fort Benton. Wood choppers supplied cord wood for boats stopping to refuel. An American Fur Co. packet burned and blew up in 1861 not far from here. A deck hand tapped a barrel of alcohol by candle light with a gimlet. The fumes, the candle, and 25 kegs of powder did the rest.

This district was favorite buffalo country for the Assiniboines and Sioux.

A party of trappers poisoned several hundred wolves one winter, hauled the frozen carcasses in and stacked them until spring for skinning. When warm weather came a blind man didn't even need his cane to locate the place. It has been known as Wolf Point ever since.

No. 62
Location: Shelby

THE OILY LOIL GETS THE COIN

A narrow gauge railroad nicknamed the "turkey track" used to connect Great Falls, Montana and Lethbridge, Alberta. Then the main line of the Great Northern crossed it in 1891 Shelby Junction came into existence. The hills and plains around here were cow country. The Junction became an oasis where parched cowpunchers cauterized their tonsils with forty-rod and grew plumb irresponsible and exuberant.

In 1910 the drylanders began homesteading. They built fences and plowed under the native grass. The days of open range were gone. Shelby quit her swaggering frontier ways and became concrete-sidewalk and sewer system conscious.

Dryland farming didn't turn out to be such a profitable endeavor but in 1922 geologists discovered that this country had an ace in the hole. Oil was struck between here and the Canadian line, and they all lived happy ever after.

No. 63
Location: West of Chester

## THE SWEET GRASS HILLS

You can see the Sweet Grass Hills or The Three Buttes to the north of here on a reasonably clear day. Things sure grow in this country. Some old timers claim that when they arrived those buttes weren't much bigger than prairie dog mounds. The Indians used them as watch towers from which they could locate buffalo herds.

In 1884 a Blackfoot Indian found gold in them thar hills and the usual stampede followed. The middle peak is called Gold Butte. It was claimed that the placer ground in Two Bits Gulch produced twenty-five cents in colors for every shovel full of gravel.

The pay dirt has been pretty well worked out and the glamour of boom days is gone, but a few old timers still prospect the gulches, hoping some day to find that elusive pot of gold at the rainbow's end, called the Mother Lode.

No. 64
Location: Havre

HAVRE

Cowpunchers, miners, and soldiers are tolerably virile persons as a rule. When they went to town in the frontier days seeking surcease from vocational cares and solace in the cup that cheers it was just as well for the urbanites to either brace themselves or take to cover. The citizens of any town willing and able to be host city for a combination of the above diamonds in the rough had to be quick on the draw and used to inhaling powder smoke.

Havre came into existence as a division point when the Great Northern Railroad was built and purveyed pastime to cowboys, doughboys and miners on the side. It is hard to believe now, but as a frontier camp she was wild andhard to curry.

No. 65
Location: Near Jordan

## INDIAN COUNTRY

Until the early '80s this portion of Montana was wild unsettled country where roving parties of Sioux, Crow and Assiniboin Indians hunted buffalo and clashed in tribal warfare. Sitting Bull's band of Hunkpapa Sioux frequently ranged through here and except for a few nomadic trappers there were no white men.

With the coming of the Texas Trail herds the buffalo were slaughtered to clear the range for beef critters and the cattle kings held sway for many years.

In 1910 the first wave of homesteaders surged in and the open range dwindled before their fencesand plowed fields. The glamour of the frontier days is gone.

No. 66
Location: Musselshell Crossing, near Mosby

## FORT MUSSELSHELL

Fort Musselshell was located on the Missouri River about 35 miles north of here. It was a trading post in the '60s and '70s and as such had a brief but colorful career. The only whites in that part of the state were woodchoppers for the Missouri River steamboats, wolfers, trappers and Indian traders.

The River Crows and Gros Ventre Indians traded there. A buffalo robe brought them 3 cups of coffee, or 6 cups of sugar, or 10 cups of flour. It was tolerably profitable business from the trader's standpoint.

The Assiniboins and Sioux regarded this post as an amusement center where bands of ambitious braves could lie in ambush and get target practice on careless whites.

During the cattle days of the '80s the mouth of the Musselshell became a cattle rustler's hangout but after a Vigilance Committee stretched a few of them they seemed to lose interest.

No. 67
Location: Near Ekalaka

EKALAKA

Some people claim an old buffalo hunter figured that starting a thirst emporium for parched cowpunchers on this end of the range would furnish him a more lucrative and interesting vocation than downing buffalo. He picked a location and was hauling aload of logs to erect this proposed edifice for the eradication of ennui when he bogged down in a snow drift. "Hell", he exclaimed, "Any place in Montana is a good place for a saloon", so he unloaded and built her right there. That was the traditional start of Ekalaka in the '80s and the old undaunted pioneer spirit of the West still lingers here.

When it became a town it was named after an Indian girl, born on the Powder River, who was the daughter of Eagle Man, an Ogalala Sioux. She was a niece of the War Chief, Red Cloud, and was also related to Sitting Bull. She became the wife of David H. Russell, first white man to settle permanently in this locality.

No. 68
Location: Near Broadus

SOUTHEASTERN MONTANA

The first white man to enter Montana was Pierre de la Verendrye, a French explorer, who arrived in this corner of the State on New Year's Day, 1743. His party had travelled southwest from a Canadian fur trading post to investigate Indian tales of the Land of the Shining Mountains.

Next came the trappers, following the Lewis and Clark Expedition of 1804-06. Like the rest of Montana east of the mountains this portion remained unsettled Indian and buffalo country until the Texas trail herds overran the range in the '80s. Up to that time it was a favorite hunting ground for roving bands of Cheyenne Indians and the various Sioux tribes.

With the coming of the cow-man the buffalo gave way to the beef critter and high-heeled boots replaced buckskin moccasins.

No. 69
Location: Just east of Browning

## THE BLACKFEET NATION

The Blackfeet Nation consists of three tribes, the Pikunis or Piegans, the Bloods, and the Blackfeet. Each tribe is divided into clans marking blood relationship. Many years ago, probably over two centuries, the Blackfeet were a forest people living in Canada near Lesser Slave Lake. They were driven south by the powerful Chippewas to the plains country. They soon acquired horses by raids that carried them far afield in enemy territory. They readily adapted themselves to the nomadic, ever-adventurous life of the plains Indians, finding the buffalo hunt much to their liking. At the height of their power they claimed all of the country north of the Yellowstone to the Saskatchewan. The name Blackfeet was given them by other tribes because their moccasins became discolored walking over the burnt prairies in their trek from the north. They are a proud, brave people who were very happy before the white man came.

No. 70
Location: Between Butte and Silver Bow Junction

BUTTE

The "greatest mining camp on earth" built on "the richest hill in the world." That hill, which has produced over two billion dollars worth of gold, silver, copper and zinc, is literally honeycombed with drifts, winzes and stopes that extend beneath the city. There are over 3,000 miles of workings and shafts reach a depth of 4,000 feet.

This immediate country was opened as a placer district in 1864. Later Butte became a quartz mining camp and successively opened silver, copper and zinc deposits.

Butte has a most cosmopolitan population derived from the four corners of the world. She was a bold, unashamed, rootin', tootin' hell-roarin' camp in days gone by and still drinks her liquor straight.

No. 71
Location: Meaderville

## MEADERVILLE

William Allison and G. A. Humfreys had the Butte hill, richest hill on earth, entirely to themselves when they located their first quartz claims there in 1864.

They discovered an abandoned prospect hole which had evidently been dug by unknown miners a number of years before. These mysterious prospectors had used elk horn tines for gads and broken bits of these primitive tools were found around the shafts. Allison and Humfreys died, their property passed into other hands and they never knew that they were the potential owners of untold wealth.

Meaderville was named for Charles T. Meader, a forty-niner who went to California via Cape Horn and who came to Butte in 1876.

No. 72
Location: At Fort Shaw

FORT SHAW

Barring fur trading posts, the first important white settlements in Montana were the mining camps in the western mountains. Everything to the east belonged to the plains Indians and was buffalo country. To protect the miners and settlers from possible incursions of hostile tribes a series of military posts was established around the eastern border of the mining camps and settlements. Fort Shaw, established in 1867, was one of these. It also protected the stage and freight trail from Ft. Benton, head of navigation on the Missouri, to the Last Chance Gulch placer diggings at Helena. Everything north of the Sun River was Blackfeet Indian territory at that time. The Fort was built by the 13th U. S. Inf. under Major Wm. Clinton.

Gen. Gibbon led his troops from here in 1876 to join Gen. Terry and Gen. Custer on the Yellowstone just prior to the latter's disastrous fight with the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians at the Battle of the Little Big-Horn.

No. 73
Location: Crow Agency

THE CROW INDIANS

"Crow" is the white man's mistaken interpretation of the Indian name Ab-sar-o-ka, meaining "forked-tail bird." This bird is still found in Mexico and Central America and the name seems to indicate that the Crows migrated from the South many snows ago. The nation divided into two tribes, the River and the Mountain Crows. In frontier days they warred with the Sioux and Blackfeet on the north and east and were usually friendly with the Nez Perce and Flatheads from the west. They were accomplished horse thieves and kept themselves well provided with ponies. Horse stealing was a highly honorable and adventurous practice amongst the western Indians.

Never bitterly opposed to the whites, many of their warriors served as scouts for the U. S. Army in their campaigns against hostile tribes.

Their Great Chief "Plenty Coups" was chosen as the representative of all the American Indians to place their wreath of flowers on the tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington.

No. 74
Location: Opposite mouth of Emigrant Gulch

## EMIGRANT GULCH

A party of emigrants who had travelled with a wagon train across the plains via the Bozeman or Bonanza Trail arrived in this gulch Aug. 22, 1864. Two days later three of these men explored the upper and more inaccessible portion of the gulch and struck good pay. A mining boom followed.

When cold weather froze the sluices the miners moved down to the valley, built cabins and "Yellowstone City" began its brief career. Provisions were scarce that winter. Flour sold for $28 per 96 lb. sack, while smoking tobacco was literally worth its weight in gold.

The strike was not a fabulous one but snug stakes rewarded many of the pioneers for their energy and hardships.

No. 75
Location: At Targhee Pass

TARGHEE PASS

This pass across the Continental Divide takes its name from an early day Bannack Chief. Free trappers and the fur brigades of the Missouri River and Rocky Mountain Fur Compaines were familiar with the surrounding country in the early part of the last century.

Chief Joseph led his band of Nez Perce Indians through this pass in 1877 while making his famous 2,000 mile march from the Couer d'Alene country in an effort to evade U. S. Troops and find sanctuary in Canada. He was closely followed through the pass by the pursuing forces of General Howard. Joseph repulsed or outdistanced all the commands sent against him until finally forced to surrender to Col. Nelson A. Miles at the Battle of the Bear's Paw when within a comparatively few miles of the Canadian line.

No. 76
Location: East of Basin

MINING COUNTRY

This is about the center of a rich mining district extending from Butte to Helena. The mountains are spurs of the Continental Divide.

Ghost and active mining camps are to be found in almost every gulch. The ores yeild gold, silver, copper, lead and zinc. The district has been producing since quartz mining came into favor following the first wave of placer mining in the '60s. In those days placer deposits were the poor man's eldorados. They needed little more than a grub stake, a pick and a shovel to work them. Quartz properties, seldom rich at the surface, required machinery and capital, transportation and smelting facilities.

Before smelters were built in Montana ore from some of the richest mines in this region was shipped by freight team, boat and rail to Swansea, Wales and Freiburg, Germany for treatment.

No. 77
Location: Powder River Crossing on U. S. 12

POWDER RIVER

When a top rider from this part of the country is forking the hurricane deck of a sun-fishing, fuzz-tail, some of his pals are prone to sit on the top rail of the corral, emitting advice and hollering, "Powder River! Let 'er buck!" by way of encouragement. The 91st Division adopted that war cry during the World War and spread it far and wide. Well, this is the famous Powder River, that enthusiasts allege is "a mile wide, an inch deep, and runs uphill."

The entire Powder River country was favorite buffalo hunting range for the Sioux and Cheyenne Indians before the day of the cattle men. Many inter-tribal battles were fought in this region as well as frequent skirmishes between Indians and the U. S. Troops. The country is rich in Indian lore and tales of the subsequent reign of the cattle kings.

No. 78
Location: Between Divide and Melrose.

## THE BIG HOLE RIVER

This stream was named the Wisdom River by Captains Lewis and Clark. Their expedition, westward bound, passed its mouth Aug. 4, 1805. "Hole" was a term frequently used by the fur trappers in the early part of the last century to designate a mountain valley. An extensive valley west of here drained by this river became known as "The Big Hole" and the name of the river was changed accordingly.

The Battle of the Big Hole was fought Aug. 9, 1877 in the valley just mentioned. Chief Joseph's band of fugitive Nez Perce Indians repulsed U. S. Troops under command of General Gibbon.

No. 79
Location: Between Clyde Park and Wilsall

## SHIELDS RIVER VALLEY

This river was named by Capt. Wm. Clark of the Lewis and Clark Expedition in honor of John Shields, a member of the party. Capt. Clark and his men, guided by Sacajawea, the Shoshone squaw, camped at the mouth of the river July 15, 1806 while exploring the Yellowstone on their return trip from the coast.

Jim Bridger, famous trapper, trader and scout, guided emigrant wagon trains from Fort Laramie, Wyo., to Virginia City, Montana in the '60s, crossing hostile Indian country via the Bonanza Trail. Bridger's route came up this valley from the Yellowstone, followed up Brackett Creek, crossed the divide west of here to strike Bridger Creek and thence down the latter to the Gallatin Valley.

No. 80
Location: South of Sun River Crossing, north of Augusta

SUN RIVER

The Sun River was called the Medicine River by the Indians in the days of the Lewis and Clark Expedition (1804-06). The Indian name was probably given because of an unusual mineral deposit possessing marked medicinal properties which exists in a side gulch of the Sun River Canyon west of here.

This country was claimed and occupied by the Blackfeet Nation in the frontier days. After the Indians were confined to reservations it became cattle range.

In 1907 the U. S. Reclamation Service built a storage and diversion dam near the mouth of the canyon and the water is used for irrigation on the valleys and bench lands east of here.

No. 81
Location: Near Ruby

## THE RUBY VALLEY

The Ruby River was called the Pacamari by the Indians and became known as the Stinking Water to the whites in the pioneer days. It joins the Beaverhead to form the Jefferson fork of the Missouri.

Fur trappers, Indians, prospectors and road agents have ridden the trails through here in days gone by.

The large gravel piles to the west are the tailings resulting from gold dredging operations over about a twenty-year period beginning in 1899. The dredges are reported to have recovered between eight and nine million dollars in gold from the floor of the valley and the lower end of Alder Gulch.

No. 82
Location: At Nevada City

NEVADA CITY

A ghost town now but once one of the hell roarin' mining camps that lined AlderGulch in the '60s. It was a trading point where gold dust and nuggets were the medium of exchange; where men were men and women were scarce. A stack of whites cost twenty, the sky was the limit, and everyone went heeled.

The first Vigilante execution took place here when George Ives, notorious road agent, was convicted of murder and hanged.

The gulch was once filled with romance, glamour, melodrama, comedy and tragedy. It's plumb peaceful now.

No. 83
Location: South of Arlee

THE JOCKO VALLEY

Named for Jacco (Jacques) Raphael Finlay, a fur trader and trapper in the Kootenai and Flathead Indian country, 1800-09.

By treaty of Aug. 27, 1872, the Flathead Indians were supposed to have relinquished claim to their hereditary lands in the Bitter Root Valley, accepting the present reservation in lieu thereof. Charlot, head chief of the Flatheads, always denied signing the treaty although when the papers were filed in Washington his name appeared on them,--possibly a forgery.

Arlee (pronounced Ah-lee by the Indians) was a war chief and did sign the treaty so the Government recognized him thereafter as head chief. Charlot never spoke to him afterwards.

No. 84
Location: At Cooke City

## COOKE CITY

In 1870 a party of prospectors came into this country by way of Soda Butte Creek. They found rich float but were set afoot by Indians. Caching their surplus supplies on the stream now called Cache Creek, they made it back to the Yellowstone and reported their find. In the next few years many prospectors combed these mountains. The first real development began about 1873.

Chief Joseph's band of fugitive Nez Perce Indians came through here in 1877. In 1883 there were 135 log cabins in the settlement, two general stores and thirteen saloons.

Cooke City has been waiting years for reasonable transportation connections to the outside world so that her promising ore deposits may be profitably mined. She's no blushing maiden but this highway is the answer to her prayers.

No. 85
Location: At or near Virginia City

## VIRGINIA CITY

All of Montana has the deepest pride and affection for Virginia City. No more colorful pioneer mining camp ever existed. Dramatic tales of the early days in this vicinity are legion.

Rich placer diggings were discovered in Alder Gulch in the spring of 1863 and the stampede of gold seekers and their parasites was on. Sluices soon lined the gulch and various "cities" blossomed forth as trading and amusement centers for free-handed miners. Virginia City, best known of these and the sole survivor, became the Capital of the Territory. Pioneers who, with their descendants, were to mold the destinies of our state were among its first citizens. If you like true stories more picturesque than fiction, Virginia City and Alder Gulch can furnish them in countless numbers.

No. 86
Location: North of Twin Bridges

JEFFERSON VALLEY

The Lewis and Clark Expedition, westward bound, came up the Jefferson River in August, 1805. They were hoping to find the Shoshone Indians, Sacajawea s tribe, and trade for horses to use in crossing the mountains west of here. Just south of here the river forks, the east fork being the Ruby and the west fork the Beaverhead. They followed the latter and met the Shoshones near Armstead.

On the return trip from the coast in 1806 Capt. Wm. Clark retraced their former route down this valley to Three Forks, and then crossed to the Yellowstone. Capt. Lewis left Clark in the Bitter Root Valley, crossed the Divide via the Big Blackfoot River and thence to Great Falls. They met near the mouth of the Yellowstone, arriving within nine days of each other.

No. 87
Location: Near Cardwell

FATHER DE SMET

The Lewis and Clark Expedition passed here, westward bound, Aug. 2, 1805. Capt. Lewis named the Boulder River "Fields Creek" for one of the party.

In August, 1840, Pierre Jean De Smet, S. J., a Catholic Missionary of Belgian birth, camped near the mouth of the Boulder River with the Flathead Indians and celebrated the holy Sacrifice of the Mass. Father De Smet left the Indians soon after to go to St. Louis. He returned the following year and established the original St. Mary's Mission in the Bitter Root Valley, hereditary home of the Flatheads. Fearless and zealous, his many experiences during the pioneer days have been chronicled and form a most interesting chapter in the frontier annals of Montana.

No. 88
Location: Just south of Ravalli

FLATHEAD INDIANS

The Indians on this reservation belong to the Flathead, Kalispell, Spokane, Kootenai and Pend d'Oreille tribes. Lewis and Clark met the Flatheads in 1805 and described them and their allies, the Nez Perce, as being friendly and exceptional Indians. They call themselves the "Selish", Flathead being a misnomer applied by the whites.

They frequently crossed the mountains to the plains to hunt buffalo and there clashed with the Blackfeet, their hereditary enemies. Many of the French and Scotch names amongst them came from marriage with Hudson Bay Co. trappers and traders in the early fur days.

No. 89
Location: At or near Kalispell

THE FLATHEAD VALLEY

Until New Year's Day, 1892, when the first Great Northern locomotive pulled into Kalispell, this valley was isolated. Lured by the richness of the sub-irrigated bottom land, and the charm of the mountains, forests, streams and lakes, pioneers had settled here long before. Originally it was the stomping ground of the Kootenai, Kalispell and Pend d'Oreille Indians.

The Flathead River enters the valley through Bad Rock Canyon. When the railroad was building through the canyon supplies were hauled from the valley to construction camps by wagon freight. One bad point of rock was crossed by the trail. To ease wagons down its east side the wheels were rough locked, a cable was hooked to the rear axle, dallies taken around a stump and a man tailed on to the end of the rope. This rock gave the canyon its name. The present highway was blasted out along the river at the base of this cliff.

No. 90
Location: Between Troy and Libby

KOOTENAI RIVER

Kootenai is an Indian word meaning Deer Robes. The Kootenai tribe lived and hunted in this part of Montana and adjoining territory in Idaho and Canada.

They were friendly with neighboring mountain tribes but suffered frequently from the incursions of their bitter enemies, the Blackfeet, who came across the Continental Divide from the plains on horse stealing and scalp raising expeditions.

First white men in here were trappers and traders for British fur companies as early as 1809. Placer discoveries were made and mining operations commenced about sixty years later.

No. 91
Location: South of White Sulphur Springs

THE SMITH RIVER VALLEY

The mountains to the west are the Big Belts, and those to the east the Castle Mountains. The gulches draining the west slope of the Big Belts were famous in the '60s and '70s for their gold placer diggings. Montana Bar in Confederate Gulch was called "the richest acre of ground in the World." The Castle Mountains are also well known for their quartz mines.

Fort Logan, first established as Camp Baker in Nov., 1869, as a military outpost to protect the mining camps and ranches to the west from possible attack by Indians, was located towards the north end of the valley. The White Sulphur Springs, typical of the many thermal springs in Montana, were discovered in 1866 by Jas. Scott Brewer. Analysis of the water is said to be almost identical with that at the famous spa, Baden Baden, Germany

No. 92
Location: Just west of Harlowton.

## THE CRAZY MOUNTAINS

The Crazy Mountains which you can see to the southwest are an outlying range. They are far more rugged and beautiful than they appear at a distance. The story goes that a woman travelling across the plains with a wagon train of emigrants went insane. She escaped from the party and was found near these mountains. So they were called the Crazy Woman Mountains, which in time was shortened.

This district was great cow country in the days of the open range and there are still a number of large cattle ranches in this vicinity, though under fence. The town of Two Dot gets its name from an early day brand.

No. 93
Location: Near Lewistown

THE JUDITH BASIN COUNTRY

The first white man to explore this district was Hugh Monroe, called "Rising Wolf" by the Blackfeet Indians. The Judith Basin was favorite hunting ground for this nation and Monroe, as an adopted member of the Piegan Tribe, often came here with them during the first half of the last century.

Reed's Fort, a typical Indian trading post, was located near here. Operated by Major Reed and Jim Bowles, the latter a friend of Jim Bridger, the post was going strong during the '70s.

In the early '80s cattle men and prospectors moved in. Rich mines were opened in the Judith Mountains and range stock replaced the vanishing buffalo. This country is rich in frontier history and tales of the pioneers.

No. 94
Location: Just west of Roundup

## CO COUNTRY

In the '80s--days of the open range--many a roundup outfit worked this country. The spring roundup gathered the cattle in order to brand and tally the calf crop. The fall roundup gathered beef critters for shipping.

An outfit consisted of the captain, the riders, the "reps" from neighboring ranges, the cavvy or horse herd in charge of the day herder and night hawk, the four horse chuck wagon piloted by the cook, and the bed wagon driven by his flunkey. Camp moved each day.

The cowboys rode circle in the morning, combing the breaks and coulees for cattle and heading them toward the central point to form a herd. In the afternoons of spring roundup the guards kept the herd together, the cutters split out the cows with calves, the ropers dabbed their loops on the calves, took a couple of dally welts around the saddle horn and dragged 'em to the fire. There the calf wrestlers flanked and flopped them and the brander decorated them with ear notches, or dew laps, and a hot iron. It wasn't all sunshine and roses.

No. 95
Location: Near Eureka

TOBACCO PLAINS

During the fur trapping and trading days in the early part of the last century this corner of the State was remote and inaccessible from the customary trapping grounds and operating bases of the Americans. Representatives of the British and Canadian companies came in from the north and established posts along the Kootenai River.

The Tobacco Plains were so named by the Indians following experiments in tobacco raising made by missionary priests.

In prehistoric times the valley of the Kootenai was filled with an enormous ice sheet.

Kootenai is an Indian word meaning Deer Robes.

No. 96
Location: Anaconda

ANACONDA

Selected by Marcus Daly as a smelter site in 1883 because of an abundant supply of good water, Anaconda is the home of the Washoe Smelter of the Anaconda Copper Mining Co. History has been made here in the science of copper smelting and the plant is famous throughout the mining and metallurgical world.

From a straggling tent town Anaconda has grown to be a modern city but retains all of the aggressive spirit of the pioneer days.